



Programmed After-school Recreation for Kids!

DECEMBER 2021

RECREATION SUPERVISOR NEWSLETTER

Reminders

- Monday, Dec. 20 - Sunday, Jan. 2: Winter Break; no school or P.A.R.K.

Please Review and Update

This is a good time of the year to review your parent handbook and the policies of our program. Please also update any information listed on your child's emergency medical form.

Inclement Weather Days

Remember winter weather can close schools for the day. Please make sure you have other arrangements for childcare on snow days. P.A.R.K. does not operate on inclement weather days when SWCSD closes or releases early.

Cold Weather Gear

If the weather remains above 20 degrees including the wind chill factor, we will take the children outdoors for large-muscle activity after school each day. Please be sure your child dresses in layers, and wears a winter coat, gloves, boots and hat as needed each day for weather conditions.

Eight Things Kids Need to Thrive

-Harley Rotbart, MD Colorado Children's Hospital

- 1. Security**
Kids must feel safe and sound with their basic survival needs met: shelter, food, clothing, medical care and protection from harm.
- 2. Stability**
Stability comes from family and community. Ideally, a family remains together in a stable household, but when that's not possible, it's important to disrupt the child's life as little as possible. Kids and families should be a part of larger units to give them a sense of belonging, tradition and cultural continuity.
- 3. Consistency**
No "good cop, bad cop." Parents should synchronize their parenting and make sure important values stay consistent.
- 4. Emotional support**
Parents' words and actions should encourage kids' trust, respect, self-esteem and ultimately independence.
- 5. Love**
Saying and showing you love your kids can overcome almost any parenting "mistakes" you make. Even if your kids disobey, anger, frustrate and rebel against you, show them you love them and that you'll always love them.
- 6. Education**
Make sure your kids get the best possible education for their future. This includes school, of course, but it also includes the invaluable life lessons you provide during the time you spend together.
- 7. Positive Role Models**
Parents are their kids' first and most important role models. Instill your values and teach children empathy by being the kind of person you want them to become.
- 8. Structure**
Rules, boundaries, and limits: Without them, kids are forced to be adults before they are ready, and they lose respect for you and other adults.



The City of Grove City • Parks and Recreation Department
P.A.R.K. Recreation Supervisors: Megan Williams and Amanda Gehres

614-277-3050 • GroveCityOhio.gov • facebook.com/GroveCityParks • twitter.com/GroveCityOhio • instagram.com/GroveCityParks

FUN SNOW DAY ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

#2



BUILD A LIVING ROOM CAMPSITE

Turn out the lights, wear PJs, bust out the sleeping bags. If you don't have a tent, build a fort using blankets, couch cushions and pillows. Hide chocolate bar, graham crackers and marshmallows in the pantry for snow days. s'mores.

#4



MAKE MAGAZINE MOSAICS

Have kids cut out different colors from the pages into small squares. Next, sketch a design on a paper plate. Then use glue and a paint brush to make a colorful mosaic.

#1

CREATE SNOW ART

Bring some color into the outdoor fun. Filling empty spray bottles with food coloring and water, then letting the kids unleash their inner winter wonderland artist! Kids can design rainbows, flowers or self-portraits or even add color to snowmen.



#3

SCHEDULE A PLAY DATE

At the beginning of each school year, make a snow day roster with neighbors who want to participate. Make rotating shifts throughout the day, allowing each parent a little peace and quiet to catch up on their own tasks as well.

#5

BAKE, BAKE, BAKE

If it's too cold to enjoy the snow outside, bring the fun into the kitchen. Make some yummy treats that everyone will enjoy.





Programmed After-school Recreation for Kids!

DECEMBER 2021

HIGHLAND PARK NEWSLETTER

Reminder

- Monday, Dec. 20 - Sunday, Jan. 2: no school or P.A.R.K.
- Make sure to call if your child will be absent from P.A.R.K. The school does not let us know if your child was absent.
- Ensure your child has a water bottle and a snack for P.A.R.K. each day. We don't have food for them if they forget.
- As the weather gets cold, please provide the appropriate outerwear for your child. We still go outside for P.A.R.K. during the winter.

December Challenge Days

Every Friday, we have a challenge or science experiment for the kids we call "Fun Friday." This month's themes are candy cane hooks, what's in the stocking, and wrap ball game!

Candy Cane Hook

Each kid receives a candy cane and a piece of paper. They will try to hook as many candy canes as they can in 30 seconds using their candy cane. Once the 30 seconds are up, they will write down how many they collected, and the person who has the most candy canes gets to pick out of the prize box!

Behavior Management: Stars of the Month

We want everyone to have an opportunity to be Star of the Month. All the kids work really hard to earn stars and be the best they can be. Since we have so many kids in our program, we will now name two Stars of the Month. Hopefully by the end of the school year everyone has a chance to be a star.

As a reminder, the Star of the Month is picked by staff for being a good role model, showing good sportsmanship, being respectful and caring, using manners, being kind to others, and always doing what they are supposed to.

They enjoy special privileges for the whole month such as being door holder, picking their snack seat, acting as a team captain - just little things they are assigned to do every day. This is just another way we can encourage good behavior using positive reinforcement.

December Fitness & Group Games

We have a lot of fun games to play this month to get in the Christmas spirit such as, what time is it, Mrs. Claus; Santa's coming; Santa versus Grinch tag; knock down Frosty; reindeer tag; and many more!

Knock Down Frosty - Dodgeball Game

Place three cones on each side of the gym, spaced out evenly. The object of the game is to knock down all of the other teams' bowling pins first with a dodgeball. If hit with a dodgeball, players have to sit where they were hit and wait for one of their teammates to tag them, so they can be back in the game!

Craft/Art Time

We have lots of fun crafts to make throughout the month such as bagel bird feeders, edible Grinchies, painted pine cones and candy cane reindeer! But a staff favorite we think the kids will love is Winter Wonderland Snow Globes.

Winter Wonderland Snow Globes

On Tuesday, Dec. 7, we will make paper plate snow globes! No need to send in anything; all materials are provided.

Materials:

- Clear plastic plates
- Construction paper
- Baking soda
- Hot glue gun with glue stick

Directions:

Use construction paper as the base, decorating it however you want, but remember the drawing should be in the middle of the paper and fit the dimensions of the plastic plate.

Put the clear plastic plate over your artwork, down side up.

Hot glue the plastic plate over the drawing, but leave a small opening at the top to insert baking soda in as snow.

Once you put in as much baking soda you'd like, put more hot glue around all the edges.



The City of Grove City • Parks and Recreation Department

P.A.R.K. Recreation Supervisors: Megan Williams and Amanda Gehres

614-277-3050 • GroveCityOhio.gov • facebook.com/GroveCityParks • twitter.com/GroveCityOhio • instagram.com/GroveCityParks

HIGHLAND PARK



DECEMBER 2021



For absences, call
614-571-9624

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 • Triple Trouble • Homework & Reading • Fitness	2 • Parachute Games • Bagel Bird Feeders • Homework & Reading	3 • Santa vs. Grinch Tag • Makeup Craft • Challenge: Candy Cane Hook
6 • Scooter Races • Homework & Reading • Fitness	7 • Knock Down Frosty • Plate Snow Globes • Homework & Reading	8 • What Time Is It, Mrs. Claus? • Homework & Reading • Fitness	9 • Santa's Coming! • Edible Grinch • Homework & Reading	10 • Sheepherder • Makeup Craft • Challenge: What's in the Stocking?
13 • Obstacle Course • Homework & Reading • Fitness	14 • Reindeer Tag • Painted Pine Cones • Homework & Reading	15 • Candy Lot • Homework & Reading • Fitness P.A.R.K. PAYMENT DUE	16 • Tornado Tag • Candy Cane Reindeer • Homework & Reading	17 • Ship Island • Makeup Craft • Challenge: Wrap Ball Game
20 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	21 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	22 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	23 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	24 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.
27 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	28 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	29 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	30 NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.	NO SCHOOL OR P.A.R.K.